

FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR NO FURTHER ACTION AT
THE GSA WAREHOUSE AREA
PARCELS 151(7), 2(7), 3(7), 4(7), 67(7), 69(7), 91(7), 111(7), 128(7), 129(7), AND 238(7)
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

NOVEMBER 2000

**U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES
DECISION DOCUMENT**

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at the General Services Administration (GSA) Warehouse Area, Parcels 151(7), 2(7), 3(7), 4(7), 67(7), 69(7), 91(7), 111(7), 128(7), 129(7), and 238(7) at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of the GSA Warehouse Area at FTMC is shown on Figure 1. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT is comprised of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

Based on the results of the site investigation (SI) completed at the GSA Warehouse Area and the future land use of the site, the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for the GSA Warehouse Area. A list of background documents for the GSA Warehouse Area is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for the GSA Warehouse Area is available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

**REGULATIONS GOVERNING
SITE**

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510 established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense installations would be closed or realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration

Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act process.

SITE BACKGROUND

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC is comprised of two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham Range. Until May 1998, the FTMC installation also included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR THE GSA WAREHOUSE AREA

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc., 1998, *Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000a, *Final Site Investigation Report, GSA Warehouse Area, Parcels 151(7), 2(7), 3(7), 4(7), 67(7), 69(7), 91(7), 111(7), 128(7), 129(7), and 238(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, November.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000b, *Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, July.

IT Corporation (IT), 1998, *Final Site-Specific Field Sampling Plan Attachment Site Investigation at the GSA Warehouse Area, Parcels 151(7), 2(7), 4(7), 67(7), 69(7), 238(7), 129(7), 111(7), 91(7), and 128(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, August.

Science Applications International Corporation, 1998, *Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, July.

from the State of Alabama. The Main Post, which comprises 18,946 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which comprises 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

Activities for the GSA Warehouse Area date back to World War I when it was originally used as a livery where post horses were stabled. During the following years, this area was used as a staging and maintenance area for all types of government vehicles. For the purpose of conducting this SI, this area has been defined to include 11 neighboring parcels which are located within this central part of the Main Post. The area (Figure 1) is bounded by

7th Avenue to the north, 20th Street and Transportation Road to the south, Nielsen Street to the east and the South Branch Cane Creek to the south and west. This area includes the following parcels:

- GSA Warehouse Area, Parcel 151(7) - northwest
- Underground Storage Tank (UST), GSA Motor Pool Area, Parcel 2(7) - south/central
- UST, Telephone Exchange Building 251, Parcel 3(7) - west/central
- Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants Point GSA, Parcel 4(7) - east
- Former Battery Maintenance Area, Building 234, Parcel 67(7) - south/central
- Washrack at Building 253, Parcel 69(7) - south
- Former Dry Cleaning Area, Building T-233, Parcel 91(7) - south

- Former Multicraft Shop Building T-245, Parcel 111(7) - east
- Former Washrack at Nielsen Street, Parcel 128(7) - northeast
- Washrack near Building T-222, Parcel 129(7) - west
- UST, Former Gas Station, Parcel 238(7) - south/central.

Of these 11 parcels, 4 parcels are associated with GSA activities at FTMC (Parcels 2[7], 69[7], 67[7], 4[7]). In the final SI report (IT, 2000a), Section 1.0 presents site description and history information for the parcels associated with the GSA Warehouse Area.

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the environmental baseline survey (Environmental Science and Engineering, 1998) was used to group areas at FTMC into

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES
FOR FORT MCCLELLAN**

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library

Reference Section

Anniston, Alabama 36201

Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison

Tele: (256) 237-8501

Fax: (256) 238-0474

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library

9th Floor

Jacksonville State University

700 Pelham Road

Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249

Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

standardized parcel categories using U.S. Department of Defense guidance. All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, or a non-Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act qualifier designation, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA Parcels (Categories 1 and 2) and CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7); and CERFA Qualified Parcels. The GSA Warehouse Area and associated parcels were categorized as CERFA Category 7 parcels. CERFA Category 7 parcels are areas that are not evaluated or require further evaluation

(Environmental Science and Engineering, 1998).

SITE INVESTIGATION

An SI was conducted at the GSA Warehouse Area to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that would present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT Corporation [IT], 2000a).

The SI at the GSA Warehouse Area consisted of a geophysical survey and the sampling and analyses of 52 surface soil samples, 5 depositional soil samples, 56 subsurface soil

samples, 36 groundwater samples, 9 surface water samples, and 9 sediment samples. In addition, 25 groundwater monitoring wells were installed in the residuum groundwater zone to facilitate groundwater sample collection and to provide site-specific geological and hydrogeological characterization information.

Surface soil and depositional soil samples were collected from the upper 1 foot of soil by either direct-push technology or with a 3-inch diameter stainless-steel hand auger; subsurface soil samples were collected from soil borings at a depth greater than 1-foot below ground surface in the unsaturated

zone using the direct-push sampling procedures.

Groundwater was sampled from 25 temporary wells installed during the SI and the 11 existing wells at the GSA Warehouse Area.

Surface water and sediment samples were collected from sampling locations that were determined in the field, based on drainage pathways and actual field observations.

The target analyses for samples collected at the GSA Warehouse Area, Parcel 151(7) included the following parameters:

- Target compound list volatile organic compounds
- Target compound list semivolatile organic compounds (SVOC)
- Target analyte list metals
- Chlorinated pesticides
- Organophosphorus pesticides
- Chlorinated herbicides
- Polychlorinated biphenyls
- Benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, and xylenes
- Polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons
- Lead
- Total organic carbon (sediment only)
- Grain size (sediment only).

To evaluate whether the detected constituents present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) and ecological screening values (ESV) for FTMC (IT, 2000b). The SSSLs and ESVs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk

evaluations associated with SIs being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC. Additionally, metals concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs were compared to media-specific background screening values (Science Applications International Corporation, 1998), and SVOC concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs in surface and depositional soils were compared to polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon background screening values developed for FTMC (IT, 2000b).

With the exception of lead in a few surface soil samples, the levels of chemical constituents detected at the GSA Warehouse Area are low. Although the site is projected for industrial land use, the soils and groundwater analytical data were screened against the more conservative residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for possible unrestricted future use. The comparison of the analytical results to human health SSSLs indicated that limited metals, volatile organic compounds, SVOCs, and pesticides in site media (primarily surface soils and groundwater) exceeded human health SSSLs. However, the distribution of detected chemicals is very limited and does not appear to be well defined. In surface soils, the concentrations of chromium (one location), lead (four locations), and four SVOCs (three locations) exceeded SSSLs and background screening values. In addition, two pesticides (one location) exceeded SSSLs. In subsurface soils, the SVOC benzo(a)pyrene (four locations) was the only chemical

constituent that exceeded SSSLs.

In groundwater, a few metals concentrations exceeded SSSLs and background screening values in a very limited number of groundwater samples. In addition, the concentrations of benzene (one location), 1,2-dichloroethane (two locations), two phthalate compounds (two locations each), and three pesticides (two locations) exceeded SSSLs. However, the cumulative concentration (0.027 milligrams per liter) of these organic compounds and pesticides is extremely low. Consequently, the overall impact to groundwater at the GSA Warehouse Area is negligible and the potential threat to human health is expected to be very low.

Given the limited extent of contamination and the projected industrial land use, the chemicals detected in site media are not expected to pose a significant threat to human health. If residential land use is desired at some point in the future, IT would propose remediation of the surface soil locations with the elevated lead, chromium, and SVOC concentrations followed by confirmatory sampling.

Metals, SVOCs, pesticides, and herbicides were detected in site media (primarily surface and depositional soils) at concentrations exceeding ESVs. However, the potential impact to ecological receptors is expected to be minimal based on the existing viable habitat and site conditions. The site is a well-developed area and is projected for continued industrial use. Viable ecological

habitat is presently limited and is not expected to increase in the future land-use scenario. Consequently, the potential threat to ecological receptors is expected to be low.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the GSA Warehouse Area.

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for the GSA Warehouse Area. No further action is selected because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. Based on the results of the SI, past operations at the GSA Warehouse Area appear to have minimally impacted the environment. The metals and chemical constituents detected in site media do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment in the industrial land-use scenario. Land use controls, for industrial reuse only, will be specified in the land-use control implementation plan for the GSA Warehouse Area prior to property transfer. Therefore, IT recommends "No Further Action" with regard to toxic, hazardous, and radioactive waste at the GSA Warehouse Area, Parcels 151(7), 2(7), 3(7), 4(7), 67(7), 69(7), 91(7), 111(7), 128(7), 129(7), and 238(7).

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

Capital Cost: \$0
Annual Operation &

Maintenance Costs: \$0
Present Worth Cost: \$0
Months to Implement: None
Remedial Duration: None.

DECLARATION

Remedial action is unnecessary at the GSA Warehouse Area. The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment, complies with federal and state regulations that are legally applicable or relevant and appropriate to this remedial action, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that limit the future use of the parcel (industrial reuse only), and will require land-use control restrictions to avoid exposure. These land reuse controls will be specified in the land-use control implementation plan for the GSA Warehouse Area prior to property transfer. The site is released for restricted future land use (industrial reuse only) with regard to hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste activities. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing nor further action at the GSA Warehouse Area, Parcels 151(7), 2(7), 3(7), 4(7), 67(7), 69(7), 91(7), 111(7), 128(7), 129(7), and 238(7).

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

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GLOSSARY

BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
ESV	ecological screening value
FTMC	Fort McClellan
GSA	General Services Administration
IT	IT Corporation
SI	site investigation
SSSL	site-specific screening level
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
UST	underground storage tank

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